DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that: my residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name; I believe I am the original, first, and sole inventor (If only one name is listed below) or an original, first, and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled: APPARATUS AND METHODS FOR READING AN IDENTIFICATION CODE FROM A MAILPIECE the specification of which a is attached and/or a was filled on August 31, 2000 as United States Application Serial No. 09/652,708 or PCT International Application No. and was amended on (if applicable).

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above. I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR § 1.56.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or § 365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate or § 365(a) of any PCT international application(s) designating at least one country other than the United States, listed below and have also identified below, any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate, or any PCT International application(s) having a filing date before that of the application(s) of which priority is claimed:

Country	Application Number	Date of Filing	Priority Claimed Under 35 U.S.C.	
			a YES	o NO
			a YES	□ NO

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below:

Application Number	Date of Filling	
60/152,194	August 31, 1999	

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. § 120 of any United States application(s) or § 365(c) of any PCT International application(s) designating the United States, listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the ciaims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States or PCT international application(s) in the manner provided by the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. § 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR § 1.56 which became available between the filling date of the prior application(s) and the national or PCT International filling date of this application:

Application Number	Date of Filing	Status (Patented, Pending, Abandoned)

SEST AVAILABL I hereby appoint the following attorney and/or agent(s) to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith. FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW, GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P., Douglas B. Henderson, Reg. No. 20,291; Ford F. Farabow, Jr., Reg. No. 20,630; Arthur S. Garrett, Reg. No. 20,338; Donald R. Dunner, Reg. No. 19,073; Brian G. Brunsvold, Reg. No. 22,593; Tipton D. Jennings, IV, Reg. No. 20,645; Jerry D. Voight, Reg. No. 23,020; Laurence R. Hefter, Reg. No. 20,827; Kenneth E. Payne, Reg. No. 23,098; Herbert H. Mintz, Reg. No. 26,691; C. Larry O'Rourke, Reg. No. 26,014; Albert J. Santorelli, Reg. No. 22,610; Michael C. Elmer, Reg. No. 25,857; Richard H. Smith, Reg. No. 20,609; Stephen L. Peterson, Reg. No. 26,325; John M. Romary, Reg. No. 26,331; Bruce C. Zotter, Reg. No. 27,680; Dennis P. O'Reilley, Reg. No. 27,932; Allen M. Sokal, Reg. No. 26,695; Robert D. Balefsky, Reg. No. 25,387; Richard L. Stroup, Reg. No. 28,478; David W. Hill, Reg. No. 28,220; Thomas L. Irving, Reg. No. 28,619; Charles E. Lipsey, Reg. No. 28,165; Thomas W. Winland, Reg. No. 27,605; Basil J. Lewris, Reg. No. 28,818; Martin 1. Fuchs, Reg. No. 28,508; E. Robert Yoches, Reg. No. 30,120; Barry W. Graham, Reg. No. 29,924; Susan Haberman Griffen, Reg. No. 30,907; Richard 8. Racine, Reg. No. 30,415; Thomas H. Jenkins, Reg. No. 30,857; Robert E. Converse, Jr., Reg. No. 27,432; Clair X. Mullen, Jr., Reg. No. 20,348; Christopher P. Foley, Reg. No. 31,354; John C. Paul, Reg. No. 30,413; Roger D. Taylor, Reg. No. 28,992; David M. Kelly, Reg. No. 30,953; Kenneth J. Meyers, Reg. No. 25, 146; Carol P. Elnaudi, Reg. No. 32,220; Walter Y. Boyd, Jr., Reg. No. 31,738; Steven M. Anzalone, Reg. No. 32,095; Jean B. Fordis, Reg. No. 32,984; Barbara C. McCurdy, Reg. No. 32,120; James K. Hammond, Reg. No. 31,964; Richard V. Burgujian, Reg. No. 31,744; J. Michael Jakes, Reg. No. 32,824; Thomas W. Banks, Reg. No. 32,719; Christopher P. Isaac, Reg. No. 32,616; Bryan C. Diner, Reg. No. 32,409; M. Paul Barker, Reg. No. 32,013; Andrew Chanho Sonu, Reg. No. 33,457; David S. Forman, Reg. No. 33,694; Vincent P. Kovalick, Reg. No. 32,867; James W. Edmondson, Reg. No. 33,871; Michael R. McGurk, Reg. No. 32,045; Joann M. Neth, Reg. No. 36,363; Gerson S. Panitch, Reg. No. 33,751; Cheri M. Taylor, Reg. No. 33,216; Charles E. Van Horn, Reg. No. 40,266; Linda A. Wadler, Reg. No. 33,218; Jeffrey A. Berkowitz, Reg. No. 36,743; Michael R. Kelly, Reg. No. 33,921; James B. Monroe, Reg. No. 33,971; Dorts Johnson Hines, Reg. No. 34,629; Allen R. Jensen, Reg. No. 28,224; Lori Ann Johnson, Reg. No. 34,498; and David A. Manspeizer, Reg. No. 37,540 and Llonel M. Lavenue Reg. No. 46,859. Please address all correspondence to FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW. GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P. 1300 | Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20005, Telephone No. (202) 408-4000.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true: and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent

manif orticolit			
Full Name of First Inventor Oscar Lee Avant	Inventor's Signature	L. Cevans	Date / 2/1/2000
Residence 16521 Harbour Towne Drive, Silver Spring, Maryland 2090	5-4042		Cldzenship U.S.A.
Post Office Address Same as above			

Listing of Inventors Continued on Page 2 hereof.

Yes

No

January 2000

Full Name of Second Inventor Bruce A. Brandt	Inventor's Signature Blan Blan Bland	Date / - 2 L. L'C)			
Residence 7623 Huron Drive, Galnesville, Virginia 201 55-1716	Citizenship U.S.A.				
Post Office Address Same as above					
Full Name of Third Inventor Jay David Fadely	Inventor's Signature 1	Date /2 //3 /2000			
Residence 2625 Terra Ceia Bay Blvd. # 604, Palmetto, Florida 33421	M CX	Citizenship U.S.A.			
Post Office Address Same as above		-			
Full Name of Fourth Inventor Michael Ray Little	Inventor's Signature	Date / 2 / / / 2 / .			
Residence 12224 Ox Hill Road, Fairfax, Virginia 22033		Citizenship U.S.A.			
Post Office Address Same as above					
Full Name of Fifth Inventor Simon Franklin Reidel	Inventor's Signature Reich	Date /01 /20:			
Residence 1 423 I Arctic Avenue, Rockville, Maryland 20853-2251		Citizenship U.S.A.			
Post Office Address Same as above					
Full Name of Sixth Inventor	Inventor's Signature	Date			
Residence		Citizenship			
Post Office Address					
Full Name of Seventh Inventor	Inventor's Signature	Date			
Residence		Citizenship			
Post Office Address					
Full Name of Eighth Inventor	Inventor's Signature	Date			
Residence		Citizenship			
Post Office Address					
Full Name of Ninth Inventor	Inventor's Signature	Date			
Residence	I	Citizenship			
Post Office Address					

Listing of Inventors Continued on Page 2 hereof.

Yes

No

January 2000